Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 OMB-01 L-03 /040 W

-----280902Z 024792 /13

R 280630Z APR 77 FM AMEMBASSY MANILA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9060

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DEPT PASS USDOC WASHDC

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: ETRD, RP

SUBJECT: TEXTILES: US-GOP CONSULTATIONS

- 1. EMBASSY HAS JUST RECEIVED SEVERAL LETTERS FROM TEXTILE EXPORT BOARD COVERING A VARIETY OF BILATERAL PROBLEMS: LEVEL OF SHIPMENTS IN CATEGORY 49 AND 120, A REQUEST FOR FLEXIBILITY AND CARRYOVER, CHANGES IN CLASSIFICATION OF LEATHER WEARING APPAREL AND THE CLASSIFICATION BY U.S. CUSTOMS OF SAMPLES RECENTLY FURNISHED US BY GOP. SEVERAL OF THE ISSUES RAISED REVOLVE AROUND DIFFERENCES IN U.S. AND GOP TRADE STATISTICS AND CLASSIFICATION PROBLEMS, AND FOR EASE OF HANDLING WILL BE DISCUSSED IN SEPARATE TELEGRAMS.
- 2. A COMMON PROPERTY OF THESE PROBLEMS IS THAT THEY COULD BE MORE ADEQUATELY EXPLAINED AND IN SOME CASES PERHAPS ALLEVIATED BY CONSULTATIONS. IN ADDITION, CONSULTATIONS WOULD PROVIDE OPPORTUNITY FOR U.S. TEAM TO RE-EMPHASIZE THAT A NUMBER OF APPAREL CATEGORIES MAY REACH THEIR LIMITATION LEVELS EARLY THIS AGREEMENT YEAR AND TO POINT OUT THAT EMBARGOES HAVE UNDESIRABLE EFFECTS FOR BOTH COUNTRIES.

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3. THE DISAGREEABLE SIDE OF CONSULTATIONS IS, OF COURSE, THAT U.S. CANNOT IN MOST CASES GRANT INCREASES IN LIMITATION LEVELS REQUESTED BY GOP. NEVERTHELESS, GOP HAS ASKED FOR CONSULTATIONS AND SINCE UNDER TERMS OF BILATERAL AGREEMENT, WE MUST ACCEDE TO THAT REQUEST (REFTEL), WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO DO SO EARLIER RATHER THAN LATER.

4. THE INITIAL REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS WAS DATED MARCH 16 AND EMBASSY HAS NOW RECEIVED SECOND LETTER DATED APRIL 25 (AIR POUCHED TO EB/ORF/FTD) ASKING THAT THE CONSULTATIONS BE HELD EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR MANILA IN MAY OR AT THE LATEST JUNE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT CONSULTATIONS BE HELD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, BUT IN ANY CASE, WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY REPLY TO SECOND PHILIPPINE LETTER.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:

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